

## VI. PRIORITIES FOR INSTREAM FLOW

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Priorities for instream flow studies are listed below. Recommendations for study priorities are determined by the merits of the stream for human use and fish and wildlife habitat, including;

- . Values of the stream for fish, especially anadromous fish,
- . existing and potential recreation and navigation value,
- . relationship of streamflow to water quality, and
- . the vulnerability of the stream to disturbance and the likelihood that such disturbance will occur in the near future.

Based on these criteria, the following streams have been identified as candidates for instream flow studies:

1. **LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER** is the highest priority for instream flow studies due to its high value for fisheries, riparian habitat, and recreational use, including boating. It is anticipated that there will be heavy demands on the water supply for commercial uses.
2. **WILLOW CREEK** is the second highest priority stream due to its high value for downstream fisheries, riparian habitat, and recreational use. It is anticipated to have future increased use for placer mining.